FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

GASTONIA, N. C.

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Services of Dedication

THE RENOVATED SANCTUARY

— of —

First Baptist Church

GASTONIA, NORTH CAROLINA

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1967

ELEVEN O'CLOCK

DUKE K. McCALL, Ph.D., LL.D, D.D., Litt.D

President, The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

Louisville, Kentucky

Guest Speaker

THE ZIMMER ORGAN

FIVE O'CLOCK

JAMES W. GOOD, D. C. M.

Professor of Organ

School of Church Music

Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

Louisville, Kentucky

Guest Organist

G25f

Call to Worship

"O sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth!
Sing to the Lord, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day,

Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples!

For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; he is to be feared above all gods.

For all the gods of the people are idols; but the Lord made the heavens.

Honor and majesty are before him; strength and beauty are in his sanctuary."

—Psalm 96:1-6 (RSV)

WORSHIP

SEPTEMBER 17, 1967 - - - - - ELEVEN O'CLOCK

". . . Let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe . . ." Hebrews 12:28

SACRED ORGAN MUSIC----------Mrs. Charles B. Summey, Organist

(The congregation is requested to preserve silence and to engage in private meditation.)

"Choral No. 1 in E Major"----------Cesar Franck

"Miniature No. 26 in A-Flat"----------Flor Peeters

*PROCESSIONAL Hymn 132: "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"------ "Coronation"

(The congregation rises as the organ begins the introduction and joins the choir in singing the hymn.)

THE CALL TO WORSHIP: (Congregation Seated)

"Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory. Oh come, let us worship and bow down; Let us kneel before the Lord our Maker." (Isaiah 6:3; Psalm 95:6)

INVOCATION

WORDS OF WELCOME

Anthem: "How Lovely is Thy Dwelling Place" from REQUIEM----Brahms
(Church Choir)

How lovely is Thy dwelling place, O Lord of Hosts.
For my soul, it longeth, yea, fainteth for the courts of the Lord;
my soul and body crieth out, yea, for the living God.
Blest are they that dwell within Thy house.
They praise Thy name evermore.

Scripture Lesson: "Dedicating a Church"----------Responsive Reading 59

Organ Meditation

MORNING PRAYER

*Hymn 499: "Dedication Hymn"----------"Materna"

THE OFFERING

*Offertory Sentence: "Bless the Lord, O my soul; And all that is within me, bless his holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, And forget not all his benefits."

—Psalm 103:1-2

*The Doxology ..... "Old Hundredth"

The Anthem: "God of Grace and God of Glory" ..... Langston
(Church Choir)

God of Grace and God of Glory on Thy people pour Thy power;
Crown Thine ancient church's story Bring her bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, For the facing of this hour!
Lo! the hosts of evil round us Scorn Thy Christ, assail His ways!
Fears and doubts too long have bound us, Free our hearts to work and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage For the living of these days!
Set our feet on lofty places; Gird our lives that they may be
Armored with all Christlike graces In the fight to set men free.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, that we fail not man nor Thee!
Amen.

The Blessing

Sermon: "GOD WHO ACTS" ..... Dr. Duke K. McCall
Sermon Scripture: Psalm 46

*Invitation Hymn 379: "O Thou Whose Hand Hath Brought Us" ..... "Webb"

Presentation of New Members

CLOSING MEDITATION

Silent Prayer

Choral Meditation: "A Blessing" ..... Shaw
(Church Choir)

Go forth into the world in peace; be of good courage; hold fast that which is good; render to no man evil for evil; strengthen the faint hearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honour all men; Love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost be upon you, and remain with you forever. Amen.

The Benediction

Christian Fellowship

*Congregation Standing

HISTORY OF FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

The First Baptist Church was organized in 1876 with twenty-nine charter members gathering in a building 20 feet by 40 feet in size. The location was near the spot where East Baptist Church now stands, and the Rev. P. R. Elam was called as pastor. He pastored in 1876 and from 1880 until 1881.

A Baptist Sunday School with one hundred members had been in existence for nearly a year prior to this organizational meeting. Previous to 1875 Gastonia did not exist and in this year the Southern Railway built its station. Therefore the history of First Baptist is parallel to that of the city.

Between 1877, the Rev. A. P. Pugh and the Rev. G. P. Webb served as pastors. The Rev. J. Booth was called as pastor in 1881. The Rev. D. W. Thomasson and the Rev. A. L. Stough led First Baptist Church as pastors from the time of the Rev. Booth's departure until 1885.

The church dwindled in attendance with the shift of the city's population westward. A reorganizational meeting in 1885 took place on the corner of Long and Marietta Streets, where the Rev. J. A. White was elected pastor.

During the remaining years of the nineteenth century, First Baptist Church was served by the Rev. F. C. Hickson, the Rev. E. F. Jones and the Rev. Charles Durham.

Just before the turn of the century the Sunday school enrollment grew to 416, and Dr. W. F. Watson was called as pastor. During his ministry the church was rebuilt on the same site at a cost of $7,000.

In 1903 the Rev. W. H. Reddish was called as pastor. For $7,000 the church purchased the lots on the corner of Franklin Avenue and South Street, on which it now stands.

The Rev. W. C. Barrett became pastor November 1, 1911, and undertook paying for the lot which had been purchased. During a morning worship service in April, 1914, the cancelled notes were burned.

Enthusiasm for a new building began in June, 1918, but actual construction did not begin until October, 1921. The cornerstone was laid June 2, 1922 and on August 12, 1923 the opening services were held.

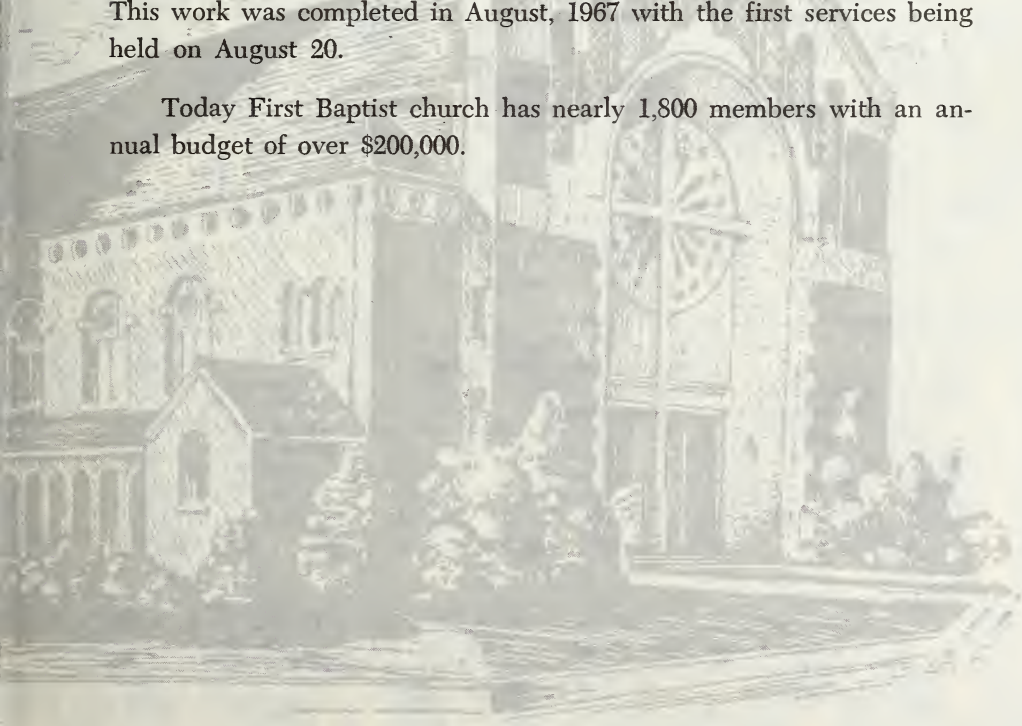
The Rev. W. C. Barrett resigned in September, 1927, preaching his last sermon on January 1, 1928, after sixteen years of service. Dr. B. A. Bowers was then called, and began his service the first Sunday in June, 1928.

With the morning worship service, May 28, 1944, Dr. Bowers closed his pastorate of sixteen years. During his ministry, 1,630 new members came into the church and contributions of $381,942 were made to all causes.

Dr. V. Ward Barr was called to serve on October 22, 1944. He served for nearly 18 years before his death in an accident on September 14, 1962. The educational plant was conceived during his pastorate with pledge day on September 19, 1954 and the formal opening on December 11, 1955.

The Rev. A. Douglas Aldrich was called in May, 1963, as pastor, and he assumed his duties on July 15. He had formerly served for twelve years as pastor of Forest Hills Baptist Church in Raleigh. One year later, on July 1, 1964, the church burned its note for the educational building and became debt-free. On October 1, 1966, the renovation processes of the sanctuary were begun at approximate cost of $600,000. This work was completed in August, 1967 with the first services being held on August 20.

Today First Baptist church has nearly 1,800 members with an annual budget of over $200,000.



ORGAN DEDICATION SERVICE

SEPTEMBER 17, 1967 - - - - - FIVE O'CLOCK

Processional Hymn 1:* "Holy, Holy, Holy"----------Nicaea

(The congregation will please rise on the first sound of the organ.)

Call To Worship: "Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands, Serve the Lord with gladness: come before his presence with singing." — Psalm 100:1, 2

Invocation

The Scripture Lesson*----------Psalm 33:1-5; 12:20-22

*(Used in the dedication service of the Skinner organ Sunday, July 4, 1926.)

Anthem for Choir, Congregation and Organ:
"The Old Hundredth Psalm Tune"----------Ralph Vaughan Williams

Congregation and Choir in Unison:

All people that on earth do dwell,
Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;
Him serve with fear, his praise forth tell,
Come ye before him, and rejoice.

Congregation:

The Lord, ye know, is God indeed,
Without our aid he did us make;
We are his folk, he doth us feed,
And for his sheep he doth us take.

Choir:

O enter then his gates with praise,
Approach with joy his courts unto;
Praise, laud and bless his name always,
For it is seemly so to do.

Choir:

For why? the Lord our God is good:
His mercy is for ever sure;
His truth at all times firmly stood,
And shall from age to age endure.

Congregation and Choir in Unison:

To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
The God whom heaven and earth adore,
From men and from the angel host
Be praise and glory evermore.
Amen.

The Litany of Dedication
(Congregation, Pastor, Choir)

(Choral Litany: "Praise" by Gordon Young—Text: Psalm 117; 150)

Pastor:

With gratitude for our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, let us come now under the guidance of the Holy Spirit to dedicate this organ—"Soli Gloria Deo" (to the glory of God) in whose infinite creativity the universe of music had its beginning.

Choir:

Praise, praise God in His temple.

Pastor:

It is a good thing to give thanks to the Lord, and to sing praises unto thy name, O Most High.

Congregation:

To show forth thy loving-kindness every morning and thy faithfulness every night. Let the people praise Thee, O God; let all the people praise Thee.

Choir:

Praise, praise God in His temple. Praise God in the firmament.
Praise God for His mighty deeds.
Praise Him with the trumpet all ye people.
Praise Him with the timbrel and the dance.
Praise Him with the cymbals.
Praise Him with the organ.

Pastor:

Let the words of Christ dwell in you in all richness; teaching one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs; singing with grace in your hearts unto the Lord.

Congregation:

And they sang a new song; and every created thing which is in the heavens and on the earth and in the seas and all things that are in them heard I singing; and I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunder saying, Hallelujah, for the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth.

Choir:

Praise Him in His temple all ye nations!

Pastor:

To the praise of Jesus Christ, the eternal, son, in whose saviourhood life is redeemed from dischord to the harmony of filial fellowship, we dedicate this organ.

Congregation:

To the praise of the Holy Spirit, by whose inspiration human minds are infused with divine truth, we dedicate this organ.

Choir:

Praise God in His temple.

Pastor, Choir and Congregation:

For the comfort of the sorrowing, the strengthening of the weak, the cheering of the weary, the stirring of the soul, the swelling of the chorus of praise, for help in singing the songs of thy church, we, the family of First Baptist Church, Gastonia, North Carolina, in the presence of almighty God, conscious of being surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses, grateful for our lofty inheritance, and sensible of the sacrifices of those who have gone before, we dedicate ourselves and this organ to the service of God, the service of mankind in the name of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Choir:

Praise God in His temple! Alleluia, Amen!

The Prayer of Dedication----------Pastor

The Dedication Recital

THE DEDICATION RECITAL

JAMES W. GOOD, D. C. M.

Professor of Organ
School of Church Music
Southern Baptist Theological Seminary
Louisville, Kentucky

Prelude and Fugue in C Minor--------Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

Noel Etranger----------Louis Claude Daquin (1694-1772)

Toccata, Adagio and Fugue in C Major (S 564)----J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

Prelude, Fugue and Variation, Opus 18------Cesar Franck (1822-1890)

Suite, "Laudate Dominum"----------Peter Hurford

Processional	(Psalm 93:1-3)
Rondo da Chiesa	(Psalm 100:1)
Meditation	(Psalm 42:1)
Scherzo	(Psalm 149:2, 3)
French Carol	(Psalm 128:1-4)
"Exurgat Deus"	(Psalm 68:1-3)

Prelude and Fugue in G Minor, Opus 7, No. 3----------
Marcel Dupre' (1886-)

You are cordially invited to a reception in the Fellowship Hall immediately following the recital.

SPECIFICATION

of new pipe organ for First Baptist Church, Gastonia, North Carolina
Built By
W. Zimmer and Sons
Charlotte, North Carolina
1967 A. D.

GREAT

1. Principal	8'	61	pipes
2. Rohrflote	8'	61	
3. Octavo	4'	61	
4. Spitzflote	4'	61	
5. Superoctave	2'	61	
6. Mixture IV	1 1/3'	244	
7. Scharff III	1'	183	
8. Trompete	8'	61	

SWELL

10. Rohrbourdon	16'	61	pipes
11. Spitzprincipal	8'	61	
12. Gedackt	8'	61	
13. Gamba	8'	61	
14. Celeste T. C.	8'	49	
15. Prestant	4'	61	
16. Spillflote	4'	61	
17. Nazard	2 2/3'	61	
18. Flachflote	2'	61	
19. Tierce	1 3/5'	61	
20. Fourniture IV	1 1/3'	244	
21. Contra Fagotto	16'	61	
22. Fagotto	8'	12	
23. Clarion	4'	12	
24. Tremolo.			

POSITIV

25. Singend Gedackt	8'	61	pipes
26. Quintadena	4'	61	
27. Principal	2'	61	
28. Larigot	1 1/3'	61	
29. Sifflet	1'	61	
30. Cymbel III	2/3'	183	
31. Krummhorn	8'	61	
32. Rohrschalmey	4'	61	

CHOIR

33. Bourdon	8'	61	pipes
34. Erzahler	8'	61	
35. Erzahler Celeste T. C.	8'	49	
36. Flute Octaviante	4'	61	
37. Rohrquint	2 2/3'	61	
38. Blockflote	2'	61	
39. Oboe	8'	61	
40. Tremolo			

PEDAL

41. Principal	16'	32	pipes
42. Subbass	16'	32	
43. Rohrbourdon	16'		
44. Octave	8'	32	
45. Bassflote	8'	12	
46. Choralbass	4'	12	
47. Gedeckt	4'	12	
48. Nachthorn	2'	32	
49. Mixture IV	2'	128	
50. Posaune	16'	32	
51. Trumpet	8'	12	
52. Clarion	4'	12	

COUPLERS

53. Swell to Swell	16'
54. Swell Unison Off	
55. Swell to Swell	4'
56. Swell to Great	16'
57. Swell to Great	8'
58. Swell to Great	4'
59. Swell to Choir/Positiv	8'
60. Swell to Pedal	8'
61. Choir to Great	8'
62. Choir to Pedal	8'
63. Choir Unison Off	
64. Positiv to Great	8'
65. Positiv to Pedal	8'
66. Positiv Unison Off	
67. Great to Pedal	8'

ORGAN SUB-COMMITTEE
Of The
BUILDING RENOVATIONS COMMITTEE
Earl Groves, Chairman

William L. Blalock
Mrs. J. T. Edwards, Jr.
Mrs. W. M. Farris
Ralph Groves
W. B. Hair
Mrs. J. Robert Wright

Ex Officio Members:
A. Douglas Aldrich
Adrian M. Littlejohn

An Interpretation Of The Sanctuary

In the decision to renovate the First Baptist sanctuary edifice was the desire to continue building on the foundations of the church who preceded us. Those who led in the planning and building of our sanctuary in 1921 obviously sought to express the great cardinal truths of the Christian faith in architectural symbols.

The sanctuary was built in the shape of a cross. A huge stone cross stands above the entrance as a reminder that each one comes into Christ's Church under the arms of his cross. The rose window speaks of Christ's sacrificed life. The stained glass windows transform the light of the outside world into multi-colored beauty—a symbol of the grace of God that transforms all that it touches. The arches over the entrance and the windows portray the strength and symmetry found in the Christian life. The lighthouse tower on the outside is a reminder of the church's witness to the world.

In the renovated sanctuary the attempt was made to adapt these great historic truths to the contemporary era. The central aisle portrays life's pilgrimmage as God's people enter the sanctuary to worship their Maker and to commit themselves to him and then depart to witness and minister in the world. The central aisle gives an unobstructed view of and access to the Lord's memorial table. The central cross above the baptistry provides not only a focal point, but also declares the heart of Christian faith as it is found in the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The central pulpit is a declaration that the central act of worship is the proclamation of the Word of God. Two lecterns stand on either side of the central pulpit. One stands for the Word of God, without which the central pulpit would lack a message. The other symbolizes the educational ministries without which the central pulpit would be at a loss in the implementation of its message.

The seating of the congregation, choir and ministers is so arranged as to give the effect of gathering around the Lord's table for each worship service.

The blending of the colors to harmonize with the original windows speaks of the joining together of the generations and points toward the priceless value of Christ's church and her united fellowship at her best. This harmony is deepened by the majestic strains of the new Zimmer pipe organ.

So this generation adds its contribution to generations past in transmitting its faith to the future.

ADDENDUM

Other areas of the sanctuary building were renovated to provide a stainless steel kitchen, a remodeled dining and adult Sunday school department area, a choir rehearsal room and dressing rooms, a beautifully furnished church parlor with kitchenette, a bride's room, a groom's room, a small memorial library, and a youth Sunday school department.

Building Renovations Committee

J. Robert Wren, Chairman

Mrs. Hugh Beveridge
Hoyt Butler
C. E. Cheatham
Mrs. W. M. Farris
Charles Froneberger
Earl Groves
W. B. Hair
Mrs. Helen Haynes
Lloyd Hoffman
Fred Jones
James Mullen
C. P. Nanney

Ex Officio Members:

A. Douglas Aldrich
Adrian M. Littlejohn
Charles B. Summey

Greetings

The congregation of First Baptist Church extends its gracious welcome and bids you to worship the eternal God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Spirit of the words of William Temple:

"To worship is to quicken the conscience by the holiness of God,

to feed the mind with the truth of God,

to purge the imagination by the beauty of God,

to open up the heart to the love of God,

to devote the will to the purpose of God."

MINISTERS

A. DOUGLAS ALDRICH

CHARLES B. SUMMEY

ADRIAN M. LITTLEJOHN

NATHAN MAY